Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 00:00 on Friday 04 Feb 2022 until 23:59 on Saturday 05 Feb 2022

Forecast Issued on Thursday 03 Feb 2022 at 16:39

Confidence: High for a very cold, windy day with snow showers Friday and for remaining windy, unsettled but often mild through into next week, but lower for cloud details from Saturday.

Headline for Friday 04 Feb 2022: Sunny spells and, especially in west, heavy snow showers. Bitterly cold with westerly gales.

Mountain weather hazards on Friday 04 Feb 2022

Blizzards
Low Likelihood

Gales
Medium Likelihood

Thunderstorms
Low Likelihood

Heavy persistent snow
Low Likelihood

Severe chill effect
High Likelihood

Heavy persistent rain
No Likelihood

Storm force winds
No Likelihood

Poor visibility
Low Likelihood

Strong sunlight
No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m							
Time							
00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy snow	Partly cloudy (night)	Light snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers	Light snow showers	Partly cloudy (night)
Precipitation probability							
90%	20%	30%	30%	40%	40%	30%	20%

Forecast for Friday 04 Feb 2022

Weather: Heavy snow, falling mainly as rain below about 300m, clears southeast soon after midnight with long clear spells and a few snow showers following. The snow showers, especially over western fells, becoming heavier and more frequent through the morning, with a risk of hail and thunder, the best of the sunnier spells in the east. Showers continue through the afternoon with, mainly over higher ground, temporary blizzard conditions and lying snow blowing and drifting in the wind. The showers easing and becoming isolated through the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Around 40% in west but nearer 75% in east

Low cloud and visibility: Periods of cloud above 450-600m in west but cloud more occasional above 600m in east. Otherwise visibility very good falling to less than a kilometre in heavy snow showers and, mainly at height, near zero in temporary blizzards and drifting or blowing snow.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/mountain-forecast
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Friday 04 Feb 2022

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph)					Wind Direction (blowing from)			
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	30/37 NW	31/38 W	33/41 W	36/45 W	38/50 W	39/50 W	39/50 W	37/47 W	35/45 W
600	25/33 NW	23/32 W	26/36 W	29/39 W	31/43 W	30/42 W	29/41 W	28/39 W	27/39 W
300	10/27 NW	10/25 W	10/28 W	13/31 W	15/36 W	14/34 W	12/32 W	12/31 W	12/30 W
Valley	11/27 NW	10/25 W	11/28 W	13/31 W	16/36 W	15/34 W	13/32 NW	13/30 W	13/29 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)								
	00:00	03:00	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	-2/-11	-3/-13	-4/-14	-4/-14	-4/-14	-3/-13	-4/-14	-4/-14	-3/-13
600	-0/-8	-1/-8	-2/-9	-1/-10	-1/-9	-1/-9	-1/-10	-1/-10	-1/-9
300	2/-3	2/-2	1/-3	2/-3	2/-3	2/-4	1/-4	1/-4	1/-3
Valley	4/-0	4/0	3/-0	4/-1	4/-0	4/-1	3/-1	3/-1	4/-0
Freezing Level*	500m	400m	300m	300m	400m	400m	400m	400m	400m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Temperatures close to freezing in sheltered valleys around dawn. Gusts around 60mph over ridges and summits and near 50mph at lower levels in or near showers.

Forecast for Saturday 05 Feb 2022

Weather: Mainly dry with some clear spells through the early hours but increasing cloud will bring outbreaks of rain, preceded briefly by some sleet and snow, towards dawn. Then a rather cloudy day with further outbreaks of occasionally heavy rain and a thaw of lying snow, although some brighter spells possible in the east. The rain turns more showery during the evening and, above about 600m, turns increasingly wintry.

Maximum wind: Westerly or southwesterly 35-45mph, with gusts around 70mph over ridges and summits

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: Little chance in south and west but around 25% in east. Chances improve a little through the evening

Low cloud and visibility: Periods or persistent cloud above 450-600m, but cloud more occasional above 600m at times in east and more widely in the evening. Otherwise visibility good or rather hazy falling to several kilometres in rain and perhaps a kilometre in any snow or snow showers.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Plus 1 or 2 Celsius though early hours then rising to plus 9 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 3 Celsius rising to plus 2 Celsius, falling back to minus 1 Celsius in evening
Freezing level: 400m soon rising above summits, falling back to 750m in evening

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Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Thursday 3 February 2022. Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:35. Full Report: The following report comes with a major health warning in that, at the time of writing, overnight (Thursday to Friday) snow is forecast to settle on all but the lowest elevations. Therefore walkers out on Friday should expect, and be prepared to encounter, very different conditions to those experienced and described below. The following will provide an indication as to what the fresh snow will settle onto. The vast majority of the Lakeland Fells and all paths are now free from snow right up to and including summit level. It was plus 2 degrees around midday on the summit and drizzling. This was softening and thawing the very few remaining snow patches that have been present for weeks now and can be found in sheltered spots and hollows and on east and north facing aspects above 850m. No ice was encountered at all. With the rain, however, the fells are very wet; this combined with the forecasted drop in temperature means that any rocks etc not covered by fresh snow on Friday could be icy. Despite the milder temperatures, the summit windchill (what the temperature feels like) remains well below freezing; this is before the forecasted drop in temperature, so full winter clothing (waterproofs, extra warm layers, hat & gloves), mountain boots and equipment - including torch, map & compass - are all essential for anyone venturing out onto the high fells. Owing to the forecasted snow, walkers out on the high fells on Friday and attempting, or traversing, steep slopes will probably require an ice axe and crampons. Goggles will be useful to defend against snow/spindrift being blown about on strong winds. Fresh snow obscuring landmarks, combined with low cloud and driving snow may create virtual, or actual, whiteout conditions. The ability to navigate safely in these conditions will be essential and/or the ability to assess the potential dangers and turn back before getting into difficulties. Temperature: plus 2.6 C, Maximum wind speed 31.0 mph, Wind chill: minus 5.5 C, Average wind speed: 23.2 mph

Issued at: 1639 on Thu 03 Feb 2022

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